

Executive Director Report
May 24, 2007

Budget

- Received \$56,716.67 from DAPC Fund.
- Received \$300 honorarium from Agricultural Leadership Foundation.
- Realizing budgetary savings (\$40,000± to date) attributed to staff vacancy.
- Continuing to finalize documentation for submittal no later than July 1, 2007 relative to receiving awarded Working Landscapes Grant in the amount of \$800,000 (\$45,000 over 3 years to Commission for grant management).
- Represented Commission at Senate and Assembly Budget Hearings (\$412,000 for FY 2007-08 recommended by Governor).
- Commission Budget Committee (Commissioners Simonsen, Johnson and Calone) has drafted plan for annual member contributions to budget for consideration and discussion by Commission.

Staffing

- Processing is underway to enhance staffing resources (by July 2007) to: upgrade Executive Director position (including competitive compensation); reclassify Environmental Scientists (vacant) position to Environmental Manager; reclassify Staff Services Analyst (S. Singleton) to Associate Governmental Program Analyst (promotion); and add a part-time clerical position (total long-term annual increase of \$82,000).
- Processing addition of two UC Berkeley interns (landscape design and GIS backgrounds) to staff from May-August, 2007 to assist in project management, including Delta Trail planning and Delta agricultural easement program at a total budget contribution of \$2,000 - \$4,000.
- Upgrading office equipment and work stations utilizing end-of-year budget savings, including purchase of copier resulting in discontinuance of monthly rental payments.

Legislation (current session relative to Commission)

- Assembly Bill 909 (Wolk) Mercury Monitoring & Remediation.
- Assembly Bill 1426 (Wolk) Parks & Nature Ed. Facilities, Central Valley Vision.
- Senate Bill 555 (Machado) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Attended hearing before Senate Parks and Wildlife Committee.

- Senate Bill 669 (Torlakson) Continuous Regional Rec. Corridors (Funding).
Testified before Senate Parks and Wildlife Committee as to consistency with the Delta Protection Act and the Commission's Management Plan.

Projects/Facilitation

- Provided input to Regional Water Quality Control Board relative to development of its strategic plan to include consistency with the Delta Protection Act and the policies of the Commission's Management Plan.
- Providing input to the Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security relative to consistency with the Delta Protection Act and the policies of the Commission's Management Plan in the update of the State Hazards Mitigation Plan.
- Providing input on Delta Long-term Management Strategy for Dredging as a member of the Management Committee.
- Mercury Collaborative, facilitated by Commission, submitted letters of comment to the Regional Water Quality Control Board on the proposed Delta Mercury TMDL.
- Delta County OES Team Agreement of Commitment has been approved by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors (Contra Costa County remains to be formally approved). Together with Center for Collaborative Policy, developed project concept paper to enhance coordinated emergency planning, response, recovery and mitigation for Department of Water Resources consideration for bond funding.
- Participating in Contra Costa Council bond funding discussions relative to emergency preparedness and response.
- Working with Department of Conservation, American Farmland Trust, Department of Food and Agriculture and the five Delta county land trusts to develop strategy for facilitating a Delta-wide agricultural easement program. Student intern will be developing relative GIS layers this summer.
- Relative to the Great California Delta Trail, had discussions with: Valley Vision; Solano County board members; California Coastal Conservancy; San Joaquin River Conservancy; Sierra Conservancy; Association of Bay Area Governments; and Contra Costa County stakeholders.
- Facilitated posting of four welcome to the Delta signs in San Joaquin County through an in-kind contribution of the County Public Works Department.
- Providing input and support to Delta Vision process.
- Providing input on Delta Risk Management Study draft report development process.

- Facilitated Delta state/local conservation easement coordination discussion.

Public Affairs/Outreach

- Served as a panel participant at the following conferences/workshops: Delta Vision (Suisun City); Association of California Water Agencies; and California Ag Leadership class.
- Made presentations to Contra Costa County and Yolo Boards of Supervisors about the Commission to promote Delta-wide integration and collaboration.
- Made a presentation to a joint meeting of the East Contra Costa County advisory councils and special districts.
- Facilitated Delta land and/or boat tours for: California Ag Leadership class; County of Sacramento long-range planning staff; and reporter/photographer from the Davis Enterprise (Solano/Yolo counties).
- Made presentation about the Great California Delta Trail to the Valley Vision Projects Committee.
- Exhibited Commission display at City of Rio Vista Community Campout.
- Serving as a mentor to a Water Education Foundation Water Leadership class participant.